

Appleby Archaeology

Notes of the Committee Meeting of the Appleby Archaeology Group held on Thursday May 22nd 2014 at Swindalehead Barn, North Stainmore.

Present

Carol Dougherty	Membership
Martin Railton	Research
Mike Godfrey	Treasurer
Martin Joyce	Newsletter
Richard Stevens	Secretary

Apologies

Phyl Rouston
Heather Edwards

Notes of the last meeting

The notes were agreed to be a correct record.

1/5/2014 Matters arising

1. 1/3/13 Talks to Schools. Richard informed the meeting that, unfortunately, Trish's father had recently died and that both schools had been informed by letter that because of this, Trish would contact them both when she felt she was able to deal with the talks and everything associated with them. It was unclear whether or not these would now take place in this academic year although Trish had previously made tentative arrangements to take a party from each school to one of this year's excavations. **(Richard & Phyl)**
2. **(Post meeting note: 7/2/14 Market Hall/Centre 67. Centre 67 had now been booked for all winter season talks at the rate of £25 per 2½ hour session. The hall will only be available from 7pm and the group will be responsible for placing of chairs, tables etc. There will be a 'dry run' prior to the first talk in October, to ensure that the arrangement goes smoothly.)**

2/5/14 Membership

Carol advised that there were currently 73 members, 41 single and 32 joint. New members for the year were 14 with 12 non-renewals. The final reminders had been sent with the spring newsletter. Tony Greenwood and Mal Ridley were long standing members who had not renewed, although it was noted that this was not an unusual occurrence.

3/5/14 Treasurer's Report

Mike presented the accounts as of May 22nd. The current account stood at £871.80 with only the CBA group membership (approximately £35) to pay.

4/5/14 Research

1. Martin explained that he had not spotted any suitable fields for walking over. There would probably not be any further ploughing until the autumn & he said he would advise once likely locations had been arranged. **(Martin R)**
2. Martin had already informed the committee of the decision by Paul Frodsham not to continue funding for the Brackenber Moor excavation. Although disappointing, it should be said that Appleby Archaeology has benefitted from the Altogether Archaeology Project. It is likely that there are budgetary issues within the project as a number of modules have been cancelled or reduced in scale. The outstanding issues from Brackenber are the conservation of the collared urn and carbon 14 dating of a number of

samples. Martin had written to Paul asking if this would be done, as promised. However, it was very possible that this would be refused, in which case the group would need to find alternative funding, possibly through CWAAS.

Paul has apparently promised to meet with Martin on this, together with other matters including W-A Archaeology involvement in the Project & Martin said that he will advise the committee of the outcome. As a result of this decision, there will be no excavation on Brackenber Moor this year & a piece will be included in the next newsletter to this effect. **(Martin R)**

A discussion took place regarding future research & it was agreed that the committee members would go away & think up a wish list. Once the membership has had a chance to absorb the information regarding Brackenber, Richard will send round an email asking for suggestions for research from the membership. The suggestion of investigating the Crosby Garrett findspot was thought to be too complex for the group to take on, taking into account the remote location, difficult logistics & high profile of the site. **(All)**

5/5/14 Correspondence

(Post meeting addition) Richard had received an enquiry from Jennie Dennett of BBC Radio Cumbria who wished to do a short report on cairns & in particular, Nine Standards Rigg. She was put in touch with Stephen Walker who took it up with her directly.

6/5/14 Programme

1. The rescheduled tour of Appleby Castle will now take place on Tuesday August 12th at 6.30pm. Cheques are with Mike & Phyl. Martin R confirmed his attendance but Martin J will advise later. **(Phyl)**
2. The full day trip to Hartlepool Maritime Museum and Headland will take place on 20th September; all bookings with the venues etc. are confirmed. Transport (16 seats only) has also been confirmed, although not yet paid for. The booking flyer will be included with the summer newsletter. **(Richard)**
3. All winter talks are now confirmed and Richard will circulate the list to the usual third parties once descriptive titles are agreed with speakers. **(Post meeting note: Speaker's list for the winter season is now available on Google Docs.) (Richard)**

7/5/14 AOB

1. Richard said that he had intended to attend the CBA Societies Forum in York & had booked a place. Unfortunately, the forum had been cancelled because there were not enough societies wishing to attend. He thought this a great shame because the intent of the forum had been to enable societies to benefit from each other's experiences with the current difficulties of aging membership, shortage of funding opportunities etc. The CBA had told him that they now hoped to organize something later in the year and that we would be kept informed.
2. After a short discussion on the responsibilities of possible new committee members, it was decided that Richard would send round an email to all members explaining the less than demanding requirements on anyone wishing to serve. It was thought that an email approach might be more promising than via the newsletter. **(Richard)**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9pm

Date and time of next meeting Thursday August 28th at White House, Brampton. (TBC)